

Courthouses of Utah County

First court sessions in Utah County were held in the old log schoolhouse of the Second Fort, and later in a seminary building located on the plot which was later the site of the Third LDS Ward Meeting House, according to a history prepared by J. Marinus Jensen.

In 1960 it was proposed that a separate courthouse be constructed, and the County Court appropriated \$2000 for the purpose. In order to raise funds, George A. Smith, Edson Whipple, Isaac Bullock, and A. J. Stewart were commissioned to visit the various settlements and ask for donations, a project which apparently was not too successful.

Completed in 1867

The building was begun in 1866 and

completed the following spring at a cost of \$5092 at about 157 N. 100 W., Provo. It served as a jail and courthouse for five years, then was sold to Provo Woolen Mills for \$5000, payment being accepted in company stock. The structure was used for a warehouse, then later for as an office building.

In May, 1870, the County Court called for bids on a new Courthouse, with the stipulation that payment would be made one-third in cash one-third in grain, and one-third in shares of Provo Woolen Company stock. It was completed in 1873 at a cost of \$21,487.80, with Brigham Young and other dignitaries from Salt Lake City being on hand for the dedication. Provo City had a one-fifth interest in it.

In 1919 it was determined that a large Courthouse should be built, and bond election was held, with voters giving their approval. Architect Joseph Nelson and city and county officials made a trip to California to inspect public buildings for a model. The County Courthouse at Woodlawn, Calif., was selected as a model.

Rudine and Chytrus of Salt Lake City were contractors for the foundation and first floor of the building, with work getting underway in 1920. The same company received the contract for the superstructure in 1921, and completed the building.

The exterior was finished in oolite stone from the Sanpete quarries. Estimated cost of the building was \$555,000.

Building's Beauty Enhanced

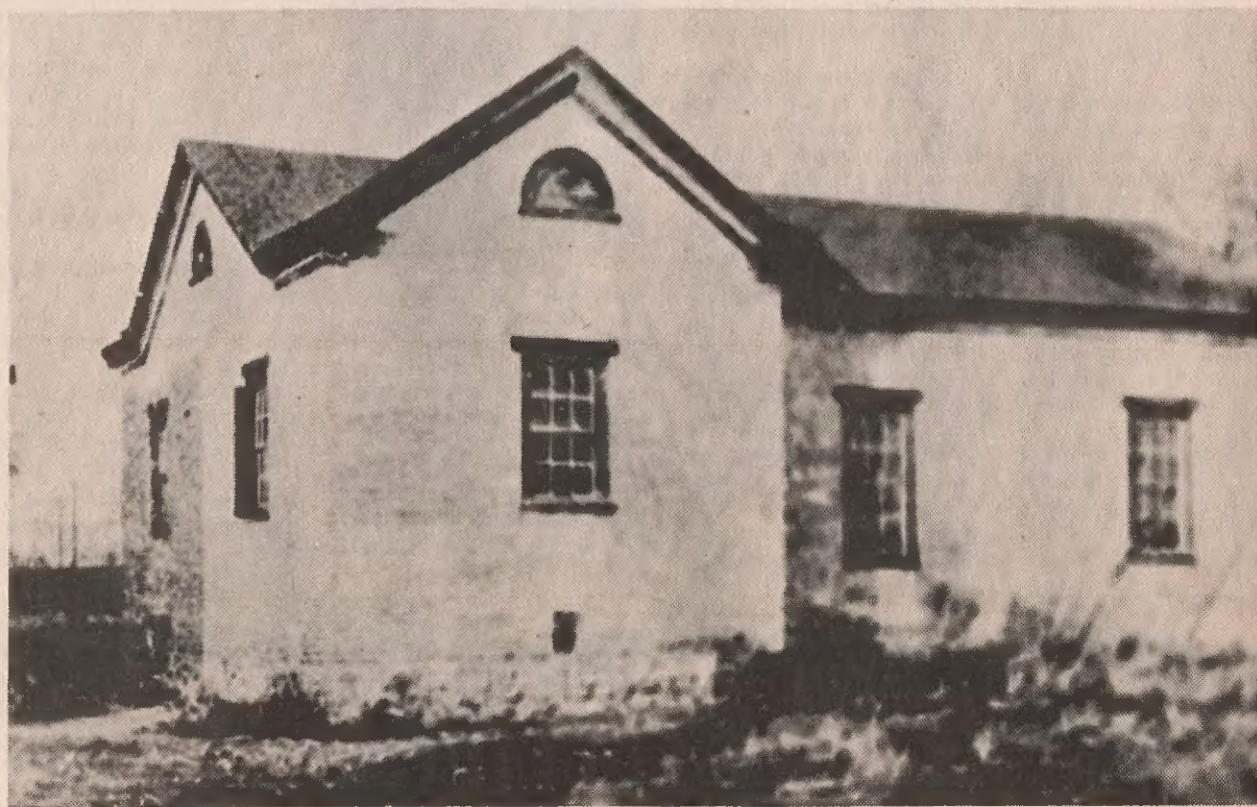
With removal of the old Provo City building from the corner of Center Street and University Avenue, the beauty of the Utah County Building, with its white colonnades and stone carvings has become more apparent.

Soon, construction will begin on a 30-foot fountain, walkways, and landscaping on the corner plot, to augment the beauty of the County Building.

The stone carvings, which grace a triangular space over the entrance, were carved by Joseph Conradi, a Salt Lake City sculptor, who fashioned the figures in the full round from a solid stone.

Symbolic Figures

Designed in symbolic form, the figures depict the history, goals, and industries of Utah County and its residents.



FIRST COURTHOUSE for Utah County was this structure completed in 1867 at about 157 N. 100 W., Provo, the block now occupied by the P.E. Ashton Company. Cost of

construction was \$5092. The building served as a jail and courthouse for five or six years.

How Did Our Cities Get Their Names?

EPHINE ZIMMERMAN - wonder how the cities of this area got their

NE was named for its unusual location. Formerly called Mountainville for the reason. It was settled in

RICAN FORK derived its name from the creek which flows through the town and is thought to have been named in distinction to Spanish Creek. The name may have come, however, from the Spanish emigrants who lived along the stream in for a period it had been called McArthursville, for McArthur, an early settler and also Lake City, for its proximity to Utah Lake. It was settled in 1850.

AMIN was named for John F. Stewart, an early

EYE, formerly known as , was settled in 1890. The origin of its name is obscure.

LLA - This was a large resort rather than a town, but was long ago abandoned. It is thought to have been named for Castile, Spain, one of the castle-like towns of the mountains surrounding it.

R FORT - The name was given by the great number of soldiers (unipers) in the vicinity.

ON was named for an early settler. Settled in 1883, it

was formerly called Pleasant Valley Junction.

DIVIDEND was named by D.J. Raddatz because of the dividends and profits derived from mines in the area. It was settled in 1907.

GENOLA was settled in 1919 and the origin of the name is undetermined.

GOSHEN was named for Goshen, Connecticut, birthplace of Phineas W. Goshen, first LDS Bishop of the community. Settled in 1857, it was previously called Sodom, Sandtown, and Mechanicsville.

KNIGHTSVILLE, now abandoned, was named for Jesse Knight, mining promoter.

LAKE SHORE, settled in 1870, it was named for its proximity to Utah Lake.

LAKE VIEW, an outgrowth of Provo, was named for its location overlooking the lake.

LEHI was named for a Book of Mormon leader said to have brought his people from Palestine to colonize the western hemisphere. Settled in 1850, it was also known as Dry Creek, Sulphur Springs, Snow Springs, and Evansville, for an early leader David Evans.

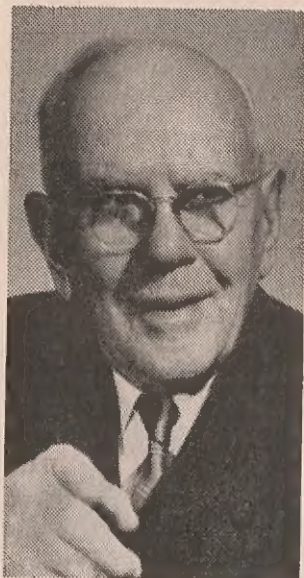
LELAND - an outgrowth of Spanish Fork, was named for Leland Creer, an early settler.

LINDON - an outgrowth of Pleasant Grove, has a name coined by the settlers.

MAPLETON - named for the wild maples in the hills nearby.

MOSIDA The name was coined from the first letters of the names of three promoters, Moore Simpson, and Davis. It is now abandoned.

OREM - Named for W.C. Orem, builder of the Salt Lake



WALTER C. OREM, for whom the city of Orem was named. Mr. Orem was a railroad man and the city hoped to earn favors from the railroad by naming the town after its president, even though he never lived there. Mr. Orem did, however, buy a large homestead and became one of the city's largest taxpayers.

and Utah Railroad, which ran through the town.

PALMYRA, named for Palmyra, N.Y., early home of Joseph Smith, founder of the LDS Church.

PAYSON - named for James Pace, early settler. At first it was called Pacen, and before that Fort Peteetneet, for a Ute Indian chief.

PLEASANT GROVE - Named for a cottonwood grove at the settlement site. Previously it was called Battle Creek, for the stream nearly where the first conflict between Indians and Mormon settlers took place.

PLEASANT VIEW - An outgrowth of Provo, was named for its view of Utah Valley.

PROVO - Was named for the Provo River, which in turn had taken its name from Eitienne Provost (also spelled Provot), an early trapper. Earlier it was called Fort Provo, as a re-settlement of Fort Utah, which was named for the Ute or Utah Indians.

SALEM was named for New Salem, Mass. Earlier it was called Pondtown for a large natural pond near the settlement.

SANTAQUIN - Named for a Ute Indian leader. Formerly called Summit Creek, for the stream which flows nearby.

SOLDIER SUMMIT - Said to have been named for a few soldiers of Albert Sidney Johnson's army, buried nearby.

The settlement was once a thriving railroad town, divided by the Utah-Wasatch county line. It is located at the summit of the watershed between the Great Basin and the Colorado River.

SPANISH FORK - Named for the Spanish Fork River, which took its name from the old Spanish Train used by Father Escalante.

SPRING LAKE - Named for a small lake formed by several nearby springs. Earlier it was called Spring Lake Villa.

SPRINGVILLE - Named for a large spring near the townsite. The area was earlier called Hobbie Creek because a member of the Mormon exploring party lost a pair of hobbles from his horse nearby.

THISTLE - The name was suggested by the prolific growth of wild thistles nearby. It was settled in 1883 when the D and R.G.W. built its line through from Denver.

TUCKER - Named for James Tucker. Now abandoned, it was a railroad station in Spanish Fork Canyon.

VINEYARD - an outgrowth of Lake View and Provo, it was named for vineyards planted by the early settlers.

WESTPORTAL - Name given the west outlet of the Strawberry Reservoir waters into the Strawberry highline canal.

WILDWOOD - Named for the wild shrubbery around the summer resort in Provo Canyon.

